Coal handling plant

†1022. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to install a coal handling plant in the Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli with a cost of Rs. 173 crores;

(b) whether Ranchi based Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) has shown any interest in the installation of this plant; and

(c) if so, the details of the obstacles in entrusting the work to the HEC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to install a Coal Handling Plant (CHP), Phase-II in Nigahi project of Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli at a cost of Rs. 249.9496 crores.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) Limited has participated in two Global tenders invited for Package "A" and Package "B" of Nigahi CHP Phase-II, separately. The work of Package "B" has been awarded to M/s. HEC Limited at a cost of Rs. 134.98 crores on single valid tender against Global Tender. In case of Package "A", the offer of M/s. HEC Limited was not the lowest, hence work could not be awarded to them.

Coal Royalty to Jharkhand

†1023. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a meeting with the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister of Jharkhand has sought to increase royalty on coal to the State to 20 per cent;

(b) whether such requests have also been made by other States also; and

(c) Government's view in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Other State Governments have also requested to increase royalty on coal.

(c) A Committee has been constituted on 02.06.2005 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) to consider revision of rates of royalty on coal and lignite. The Committee would submit its report after taking into consideration the views of all stakeholder viz., the coal producing States, major coal consumers and others.

Right of coal mining

†1024. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating on extending the right of mining of coal from coal mines facing closure to cooperative society;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of coal mines facing closure at present; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating on formulating a national policy for the employees displaced from the same in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) A total of 6 coal mines of the Coal India Limited (CIL) are facing closure during 2006-07 due to exhaustion of the reserves.

(d) The employees engaged in the mines of CIL where reserves have exhausted are being re-deployed in nearby mines/new projects of CIL.

Coal reserves under BCCL

†1025. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is 4.6 billion tonnes of coal reserves under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited where mining work is not going on at present;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.